



NEWS RELEASE

*Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska*
Joe W. Stecher

1620 Dodge Street Suite 1400 Omaha NE 68102-1506 (402) 661-3700

April 28, 2009

United States Attorney Joe W. Stecher and the Drug Enforcement Administration announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release: Carlos Lopez-Lepe was sentenced April 28, 2009, by the Honorable Judge Lyle E. Strom, United States District Judge in Omaha, Nebraska, to 120 months, followed by five years supervised release with special conditions, and a \$100 special assessment for the crime of conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and cocaine.

On September 19, 2007, DEA began intercepting calls of a cell phone utilized by Carlos Lopez-Lepe. On October 10, 2007, DEA monitored conversations between Lopez-Lepe and Leobardo Anguiano-Mendez regarding the transportation of drugs. DEA conducted surveillance and a NSP trooper stopped a car driven by Susan McMurtry on I-80 in Big Springs, Nebraska. A canine alerted on the car and 496 grams of methamphetamine and 16 grams of cocaine were seized. These were the drugs Lopez-Lepe was attempting to deliver.

Name of Defendant: Carlos Lopez-Lepe

AKA:

Age: 37

City of residence:

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty: Conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine and less than 500 grams of cocaine.

Specific Location of Alleged Crime: Colorado, Nebraska and South Dakota

Location of Arrest: California

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: more than 500 grams but less than 1.5 kilograms of methamphetamine

Others Charged in Same Scheme: Leobardo Anguiano-Mendez, Susan McMurtry

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: as early as May 1, 2006, through April, 2008

Federal Arrest Date: October 21, 2008

Date Complaint Issued:

Indictment Returned Date: June 18, 2008

Initial Appearance Date: November 24, 2008

Plea or Trial and Date(s): February 5, 2009

Sentencing Date: April 27, 2009

Next Court Hearing Type and Date:

Assigned Magistrate Judge: Magistrate Thalken

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:

In Continuous Custody Since:

Assigned District Court Judge: Honorable Lyle E. Strom

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: KCB/sm